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Busou Renkin

By Watsuki Nobuhiro

Chapter 27 Survival

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Credits

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Editor: Yadi-chan

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Qcer: Ookami

AUTHOR COMMENTS

No, it's not time for "Loincloth" yet.

After much research, I found that the world of "Loincloth" is very complicated, and I'm not worthy of them. In conclusion, I have to become a better person.

On a different note, lately I keep finding myself at the dentist's.

I've neglected my health for a long time, and now my teeth are in a state of disrepair.

By now, it's not "healing" anymore. More like "replacing" them with man-made teeth instead. Haha, maybe eventually I'll get replaced with a man-made homunculus!

...protect your teeth! Yeah.

★この作品はフィクションです。実在の人物・
団体・事件などには、いっさい関係ありません。

JUMP COMICS

第4巻

Carnival

武装錬金

Busou Renkin

Watsuki Nobuhiro

ストーリー協力／黒崎 燻

CHARACTERS

Rankin-Jutsu is an art from medieval Europe where people sought to turn lead into gold and create an elixir of immortality, both of which unfortunately failed. However, unexpected results arose from these experiments, and these arts were passed on, splitting into two branches — the fabrication of man-made bodies and the creation of the Kakugane.

Mutou Kazuki

He was killed by a homunculus, but Tokiko gave him a kakugane as a replacement for his heart and thus resurrected him. 2nd year student in The Private Academy "Ginsei High." His Busou Rankin is the lance, "Sunlight Heart"

The "Kakugane" is a supernatural thing refined by alchemy. It draws energy from the subconscious, particularly the will to fight. It speeds up the healing processes, and if the will to fight is strong enough, shapes the energy into unique weapons. Each Busou Rankin weapon is different and has its own distinct ability. The "Homunculus" is an artificial life-form that preys on humans as a parasite, attaching itself and slowly entering their bodies. Once a host is successfully infected, it transforms into a humanoid, man-eating monster. Rankin-jutsu, or Alchemy is the only known way to get rid of them.

Tsumura Tokiko

Chosen out of the people who know Rankin-jutsu, she is an experienced Busou Rankin user known as a "Rankin Warrior." She is older than Kazuki, but, right now, she has become Kazuki's classmate for the good of her mission... She mostly fights with her mechanized "Valkyrie's Skirt," named after an ancient goddess of war.

S T O R Y

Monstrous homunculi are secretly feeding on people from the shadows. High-schooler Mutou Kazuki accidentally witnesses a homunculus attack on a young girl and attempts to help, but is slain. The girl, Tokiko, turns out to be a Rankin Warrior who hunts the homunculi in this city. She gives Kazuki a piece of the kakuyuna alloy which supplies him with a new life and powers that let him fight the homunculi. Kazuki then decides to join Tokiko in the fight.

Meanwhile, Chouno Koushaku has figured out how to create homunculi from the notes his agent-turned-father, Chouno Eikushiku, left behind. Kazuki and co. defeats Koushaku and his minions, but then Tokiko is assigned a new mission: to find and destroy a Rankin Warrior from way back when who voluntarily became a homunculus and betrayed them, joining Eikushiku.

Backshaku saves Chouno at sneaks out Kazuki and declares battle. A fellow homunculus uses the kakuyuna as a Busou Renkin weapon, but the commander defeats him. The next assassin needed to retrieve the kakuyuna, so he hypnotized the students into an attack. Tokiko defeats them, but Chouno managed to get his hands on the kakuyuna.

At school, Kazuki meets the student council president, Hayasaka Ouka, and her twin brother Shuusui. Shuusui is such a good swordsman that no one in the club is good enough to compete with him, so Kazuki decides to practice with him. They practice every day after school, and at night Kazuki would recieve special training from the commander. Meanwhile, LXE sends out their third assassin, the Hayasaka siblings.

The brothers Tai and Shi greatly object to two newbies (the Hayasakas) getting such an important job, and secretly plot to kill Ouka and take her kakuyuna.

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Ren
錬
Bu
武
Kin
金
Sou
装
Watsuki
Nobuhiro

武錬
Chapter 27
Survival
装金

OUKA?
HOW ARE THINGS GOING?
YOUR PRELIMINARY INVESTIGATIONS SHOULD BE DONE BY NOW, RIGHT?

NOW I JUST HAVE TO SINGLE OUT SUSPECTS
YES, I'VE JUST GOTTEN INFORMATION ON THE TEACHERS AND STUDENTS

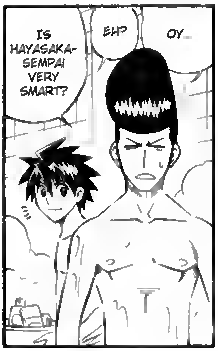
I KNOW
EVERYTHING'S TAKING PLACE IN SECRET
NO NEED TO HURRY
BE VERY CAREFUL

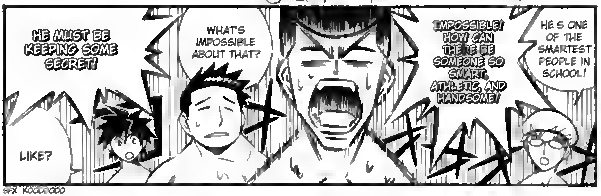
THAT'S RIGHT,
WE DON'T KNOW IF THE RENKIN WARRIORS HAVE ANY SPIES STATIONED AROUND THE SCHOOL
DON'T LET ANYONE SEE YOU
7

*SEMPAI: UPPERCLASSMAN

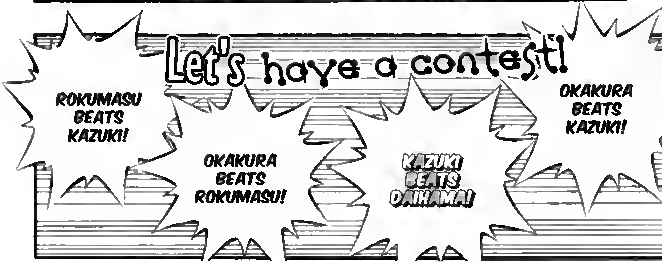
AH! IT'S SO HOT TODAY - EVERYONE'S COVERED IN SWEAT.
SO WE WERE PLANNING TO GO TO THE BATHHOUSE.
ARA ARA
BUT I HAVE NOTHING TO DO AT HOME BY MYSELF.

*SIGN: COIN LAUNDRY

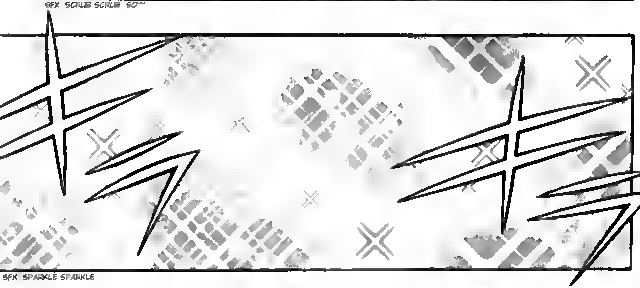

IS HAYASAKA-SEMPAI VERY SMART?
EH?
OY...

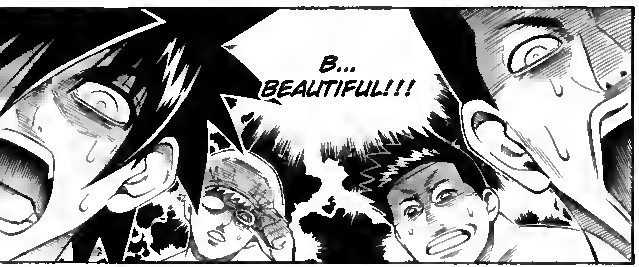

HE MUST BE KEEPING SOME SECRET!
WHAT'S IMPOSSIBLE ABOUT THAT?
IMPOSSIBLE! HOW CAN THERE BE SOMEONE SO SMART, ATHLETIC, AND HANDSOME!
HE'S ONE OF THE SMARTEST PEOPLE IN SCHOOL!
LIKE?

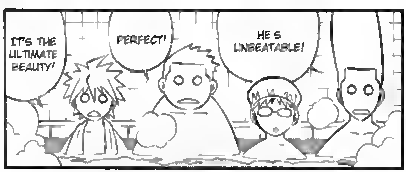
LIKE...


Let's have a contest!
ROKUMASU BEATS KAZUKI!
OKAKURA BEATS ROKUMASU!
KAZUKI BEATS DAIKAMA!
OKAKURA BEATS KAZUKI!

SHIKI!!
SFX: SCRUB SCRUB SO~

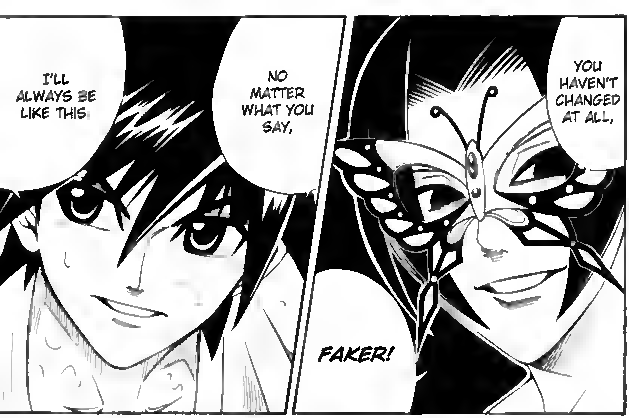

SFX: SPARKLE SPARKLE

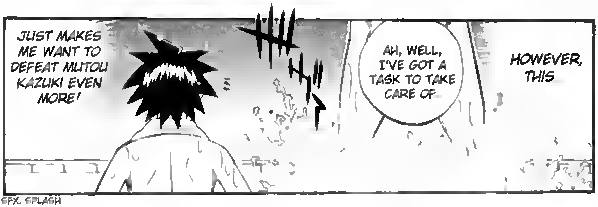

B...
BEAUTIFUL!!!

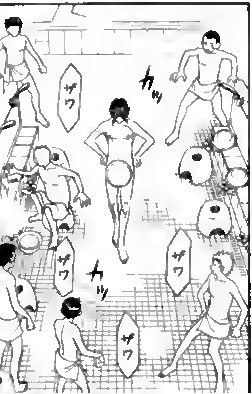

IT'S THE ULTIMATE BEAUTY!
PERFECT!
HE'S UNBEATABLE!

カポーン...
SFX: KAPOON

YES!
IF HE PUT ON A MASK LIKE MINE, HE REALLY WILL BE THE ULTIMATE BEAUTY!
IT'S RUDE TO MAKE A SCENE IN THE BATH-HOUSE
UWAAAAAAH!?
SFX: SPLASH
YOU TOO I HEARD YOU FINALLY GOT THE KAKUGANE
HEY... YOU SEEM TO BE PROGRESSIVELY GETTING STRONGER!
WE SHOULD WAIT 'TIL BOTH SIDES ARE PREPARED!
THAT WOULDN'T BE FAIR, WOULD IT?
KNOWING THAT, ARE YOU STILL PLANNING TO FIGHT ME?
YEAH, I GUESS. BUT, YOU KNOW, I CAN'T EXACTLY BRING THAT INTO THE BATHHOUSE!


I'LL ALWAYS BE LIKE THIS
NO MATTER WHAT YOU SAY,
YOU HAVEN'T CHANGED AT ALL,
FAKER!


JUST MAKES ME WANT TO DEFEAT MUTOU KAZUKI EVEN MORE!
AH, WELL, I'VE GOT A TASK TO TAKE CARE OF.
HOWEVER, THIS
SFX: SPLASH


ザワ
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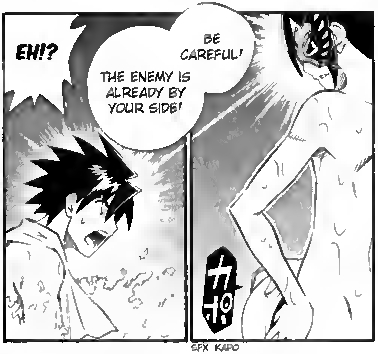
SFX: FOOTSTEPS, CROWD NOISES


EH!?
THE ENEMY IS ALREADY BY YOUR SIDE!
BE CAREFUL!
SFX: KAPO

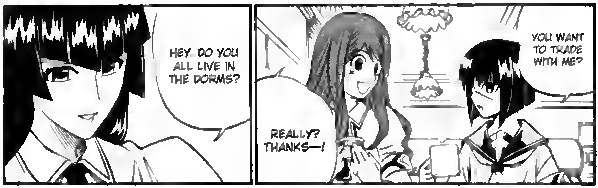
SO THEY DID SEND SOMEONE TO FOLLOW US
SFX: SWIL
SFX: FOOTSTEP
PHEW
SFX: SQUEAK

KAZUKI WHAT DID YOU TWO TALK ABOUT?
I THOUGHT IT WAS JUST A RUMOR!
SO HE DOES EXIST.
THE WEIRD GUY WITH A BUTTER-FLY MASK.
ONE PEARL MILK TEA!
CLERK!

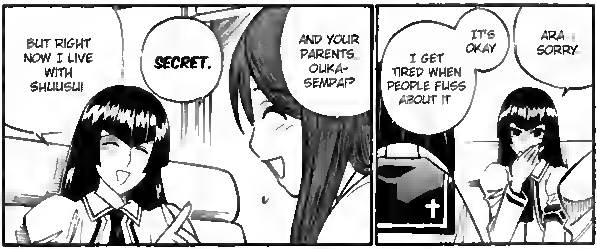
TALK ABOUT—

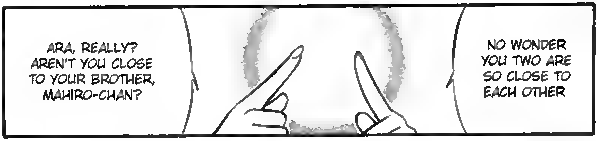
THIS IS SO BITTER—!
LIAR!
WE TALKED ABOUT HOW TO PREVENT CRIME IN THE CITY
THERE'S CRIME BECAUSE THERE'S PEOPLE LIKE HIM AROUND!

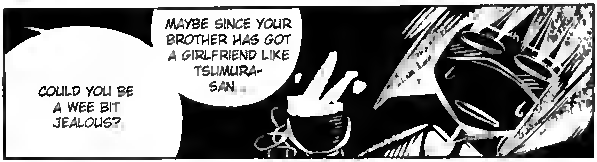
IT'S THIS CAFE'S TRADE-MARK!
YOU DON'T LIKE EXPRESSO COFFEE?
ARA ARA
IT'S TOO BITTER~!

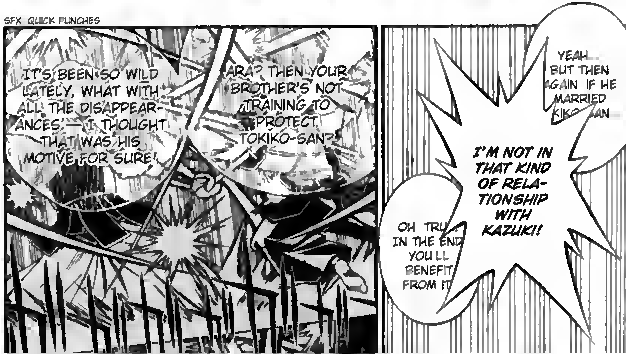

HEY. DO YOU ALL LIVE IN THE DORMS?
REALLY? THANKS~!
YOU WANT TO TRADE WITH ME?

GONE.
THEY DIED A LONG TIME AGO.
TSUMURA-SAN, WHAT ABOUT YOUR PARENTS?
WHERE ARE YOUR FAMILIES?
MY PARENTS BOTH WORK OUT OF THE COUNTRY.
OH—


BUT RIGHT NOW I LIVE WITH SHUUSUI!
SECRET.
AND YOUR PARENTS, OUKA-SEMPAI?
I GET TIRED WHEN PEOPLE FUSS ABOUT IT
IT'S OKAY
ARA SORRY


ARA, REALLY? AREN'T YOU CLOSE TO YOUR BROTHER, MAHIRO-CHAN?
NO WONDER YOU TWO ARE SO CLOSE TO EACH OTHER

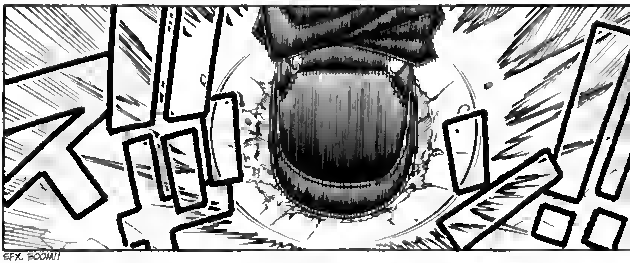

MAYBE SINCE YOUR BROTHER HAS GOT A GIRLFRIEND LIKE TSUMURA-SAN...
COULD YOU BE A WEE BIT JEALOUS?


SFX: QUICK FLINCHES
IT'S BEEN SO WILD LATELY, WHAT WITH ALL THE DISAPPEARANCES... I THOUGHT THAT WAS HIS MOTIVE FOR SURE!
ARA? THEN YOUR BROTHER'S NOT TRAINING TO PROTECT TOKIKO-SAN?
YEAH... BUT THEN AGAIN IF HE MARRIED KIKO-SAN
I'M NOT IN THAT KIND OF RELATIONSHIP WITH KAZUKI!
OH TRU... IN THE END YOU'LL BENEFIT FROM IT!

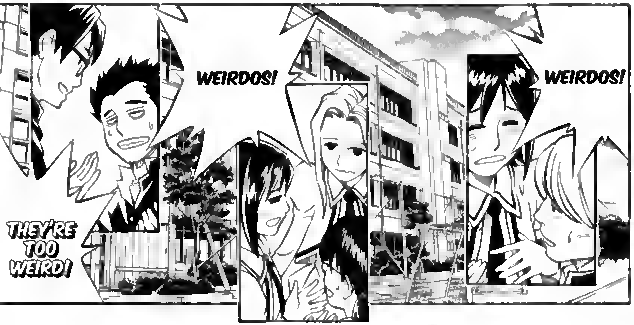
RELY ON EACH OTHER FOR SURVIVAL.
YOU'RE RIGHT.
BECAUSE WE...
OH! THEN SHUUSUI-SEMPAI...
YEAH, PROBABLY...
!
EXCUSE ME FOR A MOMENT...
GFX RUMBLING
ARA? SHUU-SUI?
KAZUKI, WHAT IS IT?
I STILL CAN'T DRINK IT...
OH...?

REALLY? PAPILLON IS FOLLOWING US—
THEY MIGHT VERY WELL FIRE US IF ANYTHING GOES WRONG.
IF SOMEONE IS FOLLOWING US,
WE JUST HAVE TO BE MORE CAREFUL FROM NOW ON
IF HE GETS IN THE WAY,
CAN I ELIMINATE HIM?
HEY, HEY
COULD YOU NOT CAUSE A SCENE?
Dorm Manager
REALLY?
PAPILLON WARNED YOU?

NO MATTER WHAT, WE OUGHT TO STAY MORE CAUTIOUS FROM NOW ON.
YES, PROBABLY ODDLY ENOUGH, HE SEEMS PRETTY COMMITTED TO KAZUKI.
CAN WE TRUST HIM?
OKAY.
WE CAN'T LET ANY INNOCENT VICTIMS BE SACRIFICED!
AND KILL ANY ENEMIES I FIND!
STARTING TOMORROW, I'LL PATROL THE SCHOOL GROUNDS
BUT, MOST IMPORTANTLY...
I WANT TO FIND L X E 'S MAIN BASE, SO CAPTURE THEM ALIVE INSTEAD
BRAVO—
THAT'S RIGHT!


SFX: BOOM!!

OKAY, LET'S GO!
HERE?
OUR DISGUISES ARE PERFECT!
NO ONE SUSPECTS US.


WEIRDOS!
WEIRDOS!
THEY'RE TOO WEIRD!

IT'S WORTH A LOOK LET'S GO SEE!
THEY'RE SO WEIRD IT'S HILARIOUS.
剣道部
SFX CHATTER CHATTER CHATTER
SIGN KEN'DO CLUB

THE ENEMIES CHOUNO WAS TALKING ABOUT!
COULD IT BE !?
TAI AND SHII!

I HEARD A COMMOTION OVER HERE...
WHAT'S WRONG?

WE'RE NOT IN THAT KIND OF RELATIONSHIP!
I TOLD YOU!
FOR ONCE YOU'RE NOT WITH KAZUKI-KUN!
HOW RARE!
ARA.
!
SFX: RATTLE
SFX: BUON
WE FOUND.
YOU!
!
I WANTED TO TALK TO YOU ABOUT YESTERDAY'S—
BUT THIS IS PERFECT!

WE'LL KILL YOU AND GET THE KAKUGANE!
!!
SFX: BOOM!

SFX: HEAVY FOOTSTEPS
TAI AND SHII! HOW DID THEY GET HERE?
I CAN'T BELIEVE THESE HOMUNCULI ARE ATTACKING IN PUBLIC!

HER BROTHER'S HERE?
NO
WHO'S THAT KID?
YOU MUST KEEP YOUR MISSION SECRET.
THEY MIGHT FIRE US IF ANYTHING GOES WRONG.
HMPH.
DAMN IT
DON'T INVOLVE CIVILIANS
NO! WE CAN'T USE BUSOU RENKIN!
WAIT!
SFX: BANG!!

RENKIN!
BUSOU
!!!
RUN! OUKA-SEMPAI!

That glow... just like sunlight!

Busou Renkin Weapon No. 1

Sunlight Heart

*** Kakugane Serial Number** LXX (70)

*** Creator** Mutou Kazuki

*** Shape** Attack Lance

*** Color** Silver, yellow, red

*** Special Qualities** The cloth attached can turn into energy, a charging force, a bright disturbing light, destructive power, etc.

*** Trademarks** Very solid, can be scratched but hard to completely destroy

It's pretty large, and thus unsuited for close-range battle

Mutou Kazuki uses the kakugane as a replacement for his heart, so if Sunlight Heart is destroyed or separated from him for a long period of time, he will die

Mangaka's Notes

– What weapon should the protagonist have? This question really bothered me.

– Originally, it was based on the Missile Gauntlet wielded by a superhuman soldier named Soros Thunderarm (a discarded character I also based him on) in my previous work "Gr-B-W" ("Gun Blaze West"). It was one of my favorites. A huge mass is mounted on a gauntlet, attacking the enemy with a splendid creative weapon along with yourself. But this idea was chucked out because gimmick weapons of the "one-handed device" style were largely used in shounen comics, anime, and etc. at that time.

– Be an orthodox and use a sword after all? Take another shot with a gun? A new shocking hero wielding a tonfa? Just when I was trying to make up my mind, I watched just the right movie, "A Knight's Tale." "Ooh!" That's it! The lance is cool! " I trusted my hunch and made the decision, never expecting that this decision will lead to more difficulties in the future....

– The design is actually that of Jinguuji Nanpuu-sensei, the best selling active designer in anime and video games. "This is it! As expected from the professional work, it's damn cool!" and made an instant decision. However, when a drawing step is concerned, it is difficult and takes a long time to grasp its 3D aspect. Perhaps this difficult problem is specific to professionals...?